

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A laminated ceramic electronic component comprising:  
a ceramic element;

a plurality of internal electrodes provided in said ceramic element, said plurality of internal electrodes face each other with a ceramic layer disposed therebetween, said internal electrodes facing each other extend to respective end surfaces of a pair of end surfaces of the ceramic element through respective lead portions extending from the respective internal electrode main portions such that the internal electrodes are connected to respective external electrodes of a pair of the external electrodes provided on the pair of end surfaces; wherein

each internal electrode of a pair of internal electrodes of said plurality of internal electrodes has a two-dimensional shape including at least one corner portion in the main portion and a portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction in a portion of the internal electrode which extends from the main portion; and

a positional relationship between the pair of internal electrodes is at least one of:

a corner portion of one internal electrode of the pair of the internal electrodes and a portion of the other internal electrode having a width gradually decreasing in one direction, are in close proximity to each other with the ceramic layer therebetween while the corner portion of the one internal electrode does not overlap the other internal electrode; and

a corner portion of the other internal electrode and a portion of the one internal electrode having a width that gradually decreases in one direction, are in close proximity to each other with the ceramic layer therebetween while the corner portion of the other internal electrode does not overlap the one internal electrode.

2. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 1, wherein the portion having a width that gradually

decreases in one direction is located in the lead portion of the internal electrode, and the corner portion is located in a portion opposite to the lead portion with the center of the internal electrode main portion therebetween.

3. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 2, wherein the width of the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction decrease linearly.

4. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 3, wherein the width of the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction decreases at an angle of about 40 degrees to about 80 degrees.

5. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 3, wherein the width of the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction decreases at an angle of about 60 degrees to about 80 degrees.

6. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 1, wherein the external electrode-side width of the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction is about two-thirds to about three-quarters the width of the internal electrode main portion.

7. A method for manufacturing a laminated ceramic electronic component having the structure according to Claim 1, comprising the steps of:

applying a conductive paste on one surface of a ceramic green sheet by a screen printing method to provide an electrode pattern having the shape according to Claim 1 on the ceramic green sheet surface; and

laminating a plurality of the ceramic green sheets such that a pair of internal electrodes facing each other with the ceramic layer therebetween have the positional relationship according to Claim 1.

8. The method for manufacturing a laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 7, wherein at least one of the pair of internal electrodes includes the corner portion located in one portion at which two sides of the internal electrode main portion are in contact with each other, and the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction located in the lead portion.

9. The method for manufacturing a laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

applying a conductive paste including Cu to end surface of the ceramic element; and

applying Ni plating and Sn plating on the conductive paste to form external electrodes.

10. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 1, wherein each internal electrode of the pair of the internal electrodes has a two-dimensional shape including at least one of a curve and a chamfering straight line in each of four corner portions, the length of the at least one of the curve and the chamfering straight line in one corner portion of the one internal electrode of a pair of the internal electrodes is different from the length of the at least one of the curve and the chamfering straight line in the portion facing the corner portion and having a width gradually decreasing in one direction in the other internal electrode.

11. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 10, wherein one of the corner portions is located in the end portion opposite to the lead portion in the internal electrode.

12. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 10, wherein the length of at least one of the curve and the chamfering straight line in one corner portion of the other internal electrode is different from the length of at least one of the curve and the chamfering straight line in the portion facing the corner portion and having a width gradually decreasing in one direction in the one internal electrode.

13. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 10, wherein the width of the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction decreases linearly at an angle of about 40 degrees to about 80 degrees.

14. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 10, wherein the width of the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction decreases linearly at an angle of about 60 degrees to about 80 degrees.

15. The laminated ceramic electronic component according to Claim 10, wherein the external electrode-side width in the portion having a width that gradually decreases in one direction is about two-thirds to about three-quarters the width of the internal electrode main portion.